

## Police Aim to Save Lives with "Booze It & Lose It"



The Governor's Highway Safety Program reminds drivers not to drink and drive.

Due to the increase in drunk driving related fatalities around the holidays each year, state and local law enforcement agencies across North Carolina were out in full force for the holiday Booze It & Lose It campaign. The statewide campaign lasted from December 11, 2015 through Jan. 3.

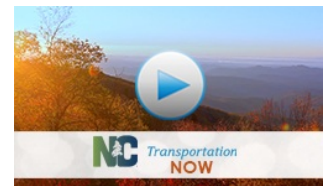
Their efforts resulted in 3,074 DWI charges in which 252 were drug-related charges and 2,822 were alcohol related.

Nearly 350 law enforcement agencies participated in the campaign, issuing 105,020 traffic and criminal citations in addition to the 2,822 DWI charges at 10,914 checking stations and saturation patrols across the state.

The top five counties for DWI arrests during the campaign were as follows:

- Wake County - 260;
- Guilford County - 208;
- Mecklenburg County - 168;
- Cumberland County - 136; and

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## Public Sees Proposed Improvements for Midland Road (N.C. 2)



A packed house of locals listen in about proposed alternatives for Midland Road.

The N.C. Department of Transportation, the Village of Pinehurst, the Town of Southern Pines and Moore County partnered to hold an informal [public meeting](#) last month about the Midland Road (N.C. 2) corridor study.

The meetings presented improvement alternatives to the public and gave citizens an opportunity to provide feedback on the potential concepts. The study team was available to provide information, answer questions and receive comments.

Midland Road is a four-lane highway between Clark Street in Southern Pines and the traffic circle in Pinehurst. It has two lanes in each direction separated by pine trees and other vegetation, and is considered a key link for the communities it connects, as well as for the numerous golf courses in the area. The reason for this study is to address transportation and safety concerns and evaluate alternatives for a three-mile corridor from Airport Road in Pinehurst to Clark Street in Southern Pines.

If you missed the meeting, project information and an online survey are available at <http://www.midlandroadstudy.com>.

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## NCDOT Board Approves Acceleration and Addition of Local Transportation Projects

Members of the North Carolina Board of Transportation have approved

the amended project schedules of many transportation projects across the state. In Moore County, this means the widening of N.C. 211 from Holly Grove School Road to N.C. 73 in West End will be accelerated two years, with construction moving up to 2020.

Late last year, Governor Pat McCrory announced that many transportation projects across the state would see construction dates moved up thanks to the signed 2015 state budget. This approval continues to pave the way.

"The reforms I signed into law will get these roads built sooner," Governor McCrory said. "The primary purpose of the reforms was to ensure transportation funds were being spent on transportation projects and not diverted to other state programs."

Construction of other local projects also will be accelerated or newly funded, because of the budget. These projects will increase local mobility and connectivity and include:

- Upgrading the U.S. 74/Future I-74 corridor from Hamlet to Laurinburg in Richmond and Scotland counties;
- In Hoke and Scotland counties, widening of U.S. 401 Business north of Laurinburg to U.S. 401 Business northeast of Raeford to a multi-lane road;
- In Moore County, N.C. 24/27 widening from the courthouse west of N.C. 22 (McNeil Street) to U.S. 15/501 in Carthage to three lanes with pedestrian access;
- In Hoke County, constructing a multi-lane area on a new location on Gillis Hill Road Extension from Rockfish Road to Lindsay Road, which will tie into the intersection of Rockfish Road and School Drive;
- In Hoke and Cumberland counties, widening Gillis Hill Road from U.S. 401 (Raeford Road) to Lindsay Road; and
- In Randolph and Guilford counties, widening Surrett Drive from Eden Terrace to West Market Center Drive in High Point to a multi-lane road.

"These local projects will absolutely work to provide congestion relief and increase safety throughout the division," said Division Eight Board member Pat Molamphy. "I'm happy to see these reforms of the 2015-17 budget that Governor McCrory signed into law, especially the N.C. 211 project accelerated with an anticipated completion date before the U.S. Open in 2024."

Ninety-two new segments of highway projects can now be funded in the recently approved 2016-2025 State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP), the department's 10-year construction plan. Additionally, the construction schedules of another 90 highway projects already approved in the STIP are being accelerated. An additional 66 non-highway projects are also being added to or accelerated in the program.

All statewide highway projects also being accelerated or added can be found [here](#).

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